

ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, November 7, 2011

2:50 pm in the President's Board Room

Present: Mike Aquino, Anne Ariaga, Amy Armstrong, Janet Chrisman, Angela Demmel, Colleen Galloway, Susan Geiger, Barbara Mangiardi, Shawna Martin, Paul McKenna, Yolanda Moran, James Patterson, Peter Shelley, Steve Showers, Cheryl Steeb

Absent: Lauren Lek

Visitors:

Called to Order: 2:50 pm

Prayer: Prayer of Thanks

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Gratitude was extended to all those in attendance at Open House. Prospective student numbers will not be available until the Leadership meeting tomorrow. There was a lot of interest from those who were in attendance. Shadowing and school tours have led people to MCHS who wouldn't have ordinarily thought of us. Department Chairs were gathered in the Student Center with the idea that they could answer department specific questions in one place, but a thought is now to move them back to their classrooms next year.

Items to be covered:

- Agenda only items
- Essential Mapping
- Courses – Removal and Name changes
- Finals Prep Days

Agenda Only Items

- Fall Course Evaluations will be available beginning December 1, 2011.
- Remember to check date reminders
- **Deficiencies due date: 11/14/11.** No extensions, extra days are already built in.
- Send department meeting minutes to **Mike, and Kim** to upload to AC site.

Essential Mapping Learning Circle - Build a Rocket Blog

- Mike made a blog entry to provide a place for department chairs to find answers to the many questions that have arisen. (This was also in the Moreuver).
- The focus is on e-curriculum. Some department may know their "destination", but not how to get there. Other may not know destination and need to figure it out.
- In order to collectively learn from one another, department chairs were divided into three Learning Circle Groups:
 - Learning Circle 1 – English, Math & Science
 - Learning Circle 2 – Modern Language, Social Studies, Theology
 - Learning Circle 3 – VAPA, TAMA, PE

Results of 30-minute Discussion in Learning Circles:

- Biology found that since they have already coordinated maps from other years, Essential Maps are not far from what they have been doing. Also found that frosh teachers are only ones contributing. Teachers on other levels are not that involved.
- Since this also ties into the ordering of textbooks, all levels of courses should be involved in the process. Moving away from textbooks is inevitable. This process is collaborative and has to involve everyone.
- Upper division should want a stake in what goes into 9th grade maps since it builds the foundation to arrive at upper levels. All levels should have something down on paper by January deadline.
- Backwards teaching helps in planning this.
- AP & Honors courses should also be integrated because of materials covered. It needs to be shown so that there is a commonality, equitable skills, and transparency where something needs to be added if lacking.
- It was suggested that departments reference the finished 9th grade English map.
- Cheryl suggested the possibility of manipulating columns to address strands rather than months. If that works, it can be implemented across the board.
- The idea of Curriculum Mapping is that departments can define the skills and content. This should not change each year, however, the sequence can.
- More time will be made available for departments to meet in groups. The next Learning Circle will focus on defining and finding resources.
- Please refer back to the blog [Build a Rocket blog posts](#) for additional answers. Entries may also be posted to the blog, or questions posed in the chat widget.

Removal of Courses – Vote

- A motion was made to drop Aeronautics & Space (532) and Computer Essentials (251) from the 2012-2013 Course Description Guide (CDG).
- A hand vote was taken.
- Motion passed and both will be removed for the 2012-2013 school year.

Course Name Change - Vote

- A motion was made to change the course name of Modern Language to World Language.
- Chinese is not considered a “Modern Language”
- A hand vote was taken.
- Motion passed, Modern Language will change to World Language in 2012-2013.

Finals Prep Days

- Departments responded to Google survey and there appears to be no issues with the offering of FPD's.
- Teachers will need to clarify with all students as to what these days really are.
- No new tests, quizzes, or projects are to be administered on December 15th or December 16th.
- An email will be sent to teachers, in early December, with clarifications of these two days.

Reminders:

- Department Meetings
 - Essential Mapping

Mark Your Calendars:

Nov. 10	Department Meetings - 2:45pm
Nov. 11	No Classes – Veterans Day
Nov. 14	Q2 Deficiencies Due
Nov. 14	WASC Focus Groups – 2:20 pm
Nov. 16	Department Meetings – 1:00 pm
Nov. 17	Articulation Meeting – 4:00 pm – Library (English, Math & Science)
Nov. 21	Green & Gold Day
Nov. 21	Kairos Retreat Begins
Nov. 23	Dismissal 12:35 for Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 24	Thanksgiving
Nov. 25	Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 29	Advent Reconciliation Service
Dec. 1	Faculty/Staff Meeting 2:20 pm

Next meeting: December 5, 2011

Adjourned: 4:00 pm